# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:246
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas Reserves
Tripathi Shri Sharad

**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether potential reserves of oil and natural gas is likely to be explored/exploited in a large part of the sedimentary basin in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such coastal and offshore basins identified for exploration, State/UT/field/company-wise;
(c) the extent of success achieved in exploration of oil and gas fields with the participation of private companies therein; and
(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for competitive market structure oriented performance?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the house.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 246 BY SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017 REGARDING EXPLORATION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS RESERVES
(a) & (b): The prognosticated conventional hydrocarbon resources estimated to be of the order of 28.1 billion tonnes (oil and oil equivalent of gas) spread in various States/UTs and offshore areas included in 15 sedimentary basins and deepwater areas of the country are under various stages of exploration. The basin-wise/ state-wise details are at Annexure.
Total In-place volume of oil and gas (Million Metric Tonne of Oil Equivalent Gas) to the tune of 11235 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) has been established in Ten sedimentary basins namely Assam Shelf, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt, Mumbai offshore, Rajasthan, Cambay, Krishna-Godavari , Cauvery, Kutch, Saurastra, and Mahanadi in the country.
India has twenty six sedimentary basins. The Government of India has planned to explore the potential reserve of oil & natural gas in a large part of sedimentary basin in the country. The following initiatives have been taken by for further exploration and exploitation in Indian sedimentary basins:
? Discovered Small Field Policy
? National Seismic Programme of Un-appraised areas
? Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)
(c): During the financial year 2015-16, crude oil production was about 36.949 MMT by ONGC, OIL and Private/ JV Companies. Out of this, 68.5% of crude oil production was by ONGC and OIL from nomination regime and remaining 31.5% of crude oil production was by Private/JV companies from Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime. Natural gas production in 2015-16 was about 32.248 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) by ONGC, OIL and Private/ JV Companies. Out of this, 73.7% of natural gas production was by ONGC and OIL from nomination regime and remaining 26.3% of natural gas production was by Private/JV companies from PSC regime.
(d): Exploration and Production sector had been opened up for Private/foreign Companies after implementation of PSC regime under Pre New Exploration Licensing Policy (Pre-NELP), New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy. These policies provide a level playing field to the private investors including foreign companies by giving the same fiscal and contract terms as applicable to National Oil Companies (NOCs) for the offered exploration acreage. New policy initiatives for enhancing oil & gas supply in the country are the introduction of Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) with introduction of Uniform Licensing Policy and Revenue Sharing mechanism for future bidding of E&P contracts. The spirit behind the transition from NELP to HELP is creation of a transparent, easy to administer and investor friendly regime, incentivize investments in the E&P sector and boost domestic production. Further, Government has approved Discovered Small Field Policy for monetization of 69 discovered small fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL). Recently, Government has approved award of 31 contract areas to the successful bidders under this policy.
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